INDEX

	Page
Opinions Below	2
Jurisdiction	2
Questions Presented	3
Constitutional Provision Involved	4
Statement of the Case	6-9
Argument re Reasons for Granting the Writ	9-14

Citations

Cases:

Akins vs. Texas, 325 U. S. 403	12
Avery vs. Georgia, 345 U. S. 559	12
Cassell vs. Texas, 339 U. S. 282	11, 12
Hernandez vs. Texas, ... U. S. ...., 74 S. Ct. 667	12
Hill vs. Texas, 316 U. S. 400	12
Pierrie vs. Louisiana, 306 U. S. 354	12
Smith vs. Texas, 311 U. S. 128	12

Statutes:

Article 1391, Texas Penal Code	1, 7
28 U. S. C., Sec. 1257 (3)	2
Article 1339, Texas Penal Code	7
Article 5154A, Sec. 4A, Texas Revised Civil Statutes	7

Miscellaneous:

14th Amendment, Constitution of United States	4
Gunnar Myrdall, *"An American Dilemma,"* Harper's, 1944, Vol. 1, First Edition	10, 11
Charles S. Mangum, Jr., *"The Legal Status of the Negro,"* Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1940	11
Dallas Morning News, June 22, 1954	13
Dallas Morning News, June 11, 1954	13

No.....

IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

October Term, 1954

GRADY ALEXANDER,

Petitioner,

vs.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

Respondent.

Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas

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Grady Alexander prays that a writ of certiorari issue to view the judgment of the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, finally entered on June 26, 1954, affirming his felony conviction for violation of Article 1391, Texas Penal Code,[1] and imposing a five year penitentiary term.

OPINIONS BELOW

Neither the original opinion of the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, dated April 7, 1954, nor the opinion on rehearing, dated June 2, 1954, is yet reported. Both such opinions are reprinted herewith in the Appendix.[2] Second Motion for Rehearing, timely filed in the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, was denied without opinion on June 26, 1954.

JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U. S. C. Sec. 1257 (3). Petitioner's rights to due process of law and equal protection of the law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment have been denied him. The Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas is the highest court of the State of Texas in which decision in this case could be had. As above indicated, that Court entered its final judgment in this case on June 26, 1954.[3]

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[1]Reprinted in full in Appendix A, p. 15, *infra.*

[2]Original Opinion of Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, dated April 7, 1954, printed at pp. 16 to 22, *infra.* Opinion on Rehearing, dated June 22, 1954, printed at p. 23.

[3]See Appendix C, p. 24, *infra,* where final judgment is printed in full.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1.

Whether a white man, engaged in organizing and representing both Negroes and whites in an unsegregated labor union in a community where community resentment against a white man who would aid Negroes in breaking down segregation barriers is even greater than is the resentment against the Negro himself, is denied due process and/or equal protection as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, upon indictment by a grand jury selected on a basis of studied and systematic exclusion of Negroes.

2.

Whether a white man, engaged in the organization and representation of both Negro and white employees of the principal industry of an East Texas community into an unsegregated labor union of which over 75% were Negroes, has a right under the due process and equal protection provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to require that his indictment for alleged violence occurring during a strike of this unsegregated union be considered by a grand jury selected without regard to race?

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION INVOLVED

Method and Timeliness of Raising Constitutional Issues

The Constitutional provision involved is the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.[4]

The constitutional issue was raised in the District Court of Smith County, Texas (the Trial Court) by Motion to Quash the Indictment, filed prior to pleading to the merits of the indictment.[5] The trial court heard testimony on this motion for three days as to the discriminatory make-up of the Grand Jury and the consistent application of a scheme of exclusion of Negroes from Grand Jury service. Despite the clear and undisputed showing as to systematic exclusion of Negroes as Grand Jurors, the Trial Court denied the Motion to Quash without opinion. Presumably, the denial was on the same basis later enunciated by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals: That a white man had no standing to raise this Federal question, i. e., that this constitutional protection of fair selection of Grand Jurors without regard to race, could be invoked only by a member of a minority race or class.

The question was presented to the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas by assignment of error, reprinted in the Appendix herein,[6] and a brief was presented in support of this assignment of error.[6a]

Again on Motion for Rehearing at p. 16, these questions were again presented, viz.:

"The Court erred in holding (Opinion p. 8) that appel-

[4] Reprinted, as Appendix D, *infra*, p. 25.

[5] See Appendix E, *infra*, pp. 26 to 30, where Motion to Quash Indictment is reprinted in full.

[6] See Appendix F, p. 31, *infra*, for assignment of error to action of Trial Court in failing to quash the indictment for failure to select Grand Jurors without regard to race.

[6a] See Original Brief to Court of Criminal Appeals, pp. 42-49.

lant, not being a member of the negro race, could not attack the indictment as having been returned by a grand jury in the organization of which racial discrimination was practiced."

And at p. 17:

"The court erred in refusing to hold that appellant has been deprived of rights of due process and equal protection guaranteed by the United States Constitution in the selection of the Grand Jury which returned the indictment, on a basis of studied and systematic exclusion of negroes from the Grand Jury; or, alternatively, on the basis of proportional limitation of Grand Jurors on the basis of race."

The Texas Court recognized that these questions were before it and in its original opinion held:

"Appellant, a white man, attacks the indictment, alleging that race discrimination was practiced against members of the Negro race in the organization of the grand jury which returned the indictment in this case. His authority for such attack is based, he asserts, upon the proposition that the union, of which a large portion were Negroes, was here involved.

"Not being a member of that race, appellant could not urge (as beneficial to him) discrimination against members of the Negro race."

No further mention of the point was made in the subsequent opinion, though, as noted above, the point was repeatedly pressed by appellant.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Grady Alexander, a white representative of the Molder's Union, A. F. of L., organized and sought to bargain on behalf of the employees of Western Foundry in Tyler, Smith County, Texas. Over 75% of the union members were Negroes. Alexander organized this unsegregated labor union, and, on his advice, after bargaining efforts failed, the union voted to strike.

The strike of the principal industry in this East Texas county of 46,241 adult population was of extreme interest to the entire community. Radio and newspapers reported daily on the strike situation. Charges of strike violence were made by both management and union representatives.[7] Front page news stories daily reminded the community of the effective strike by this union, more than three-fourths of whom were Negroes.[8]

Against this context of community awareness of the serious strike affecting the principal industry in the county, a shooting occurred. At about 2:00 A. M., March 18, 1953 (the fifth week of the strike) three shotgun blasts were fired from the street through the upper sash of the front window of the home of Israel Smith, the President and Manager of the Foundry, who was sleeping in a back bedroom. No one was injured.

The Smith County Grand Jury promptly indicted Alexander, his wife and three others,[9] for "Burglary of a Private Residence

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[7] Management attempts to curb legitimate strike activity by *ex parte* restraining order and citation for contempt of *ex parte* order failed.

[8] See Newstories Exhibits 34-41, *passim*. Transcript on Motion to Quash, pp. 212-216. Typical front page headlines were: "Struck Foundry Urges Employees to Resume Jobs"; "First Violence in Strike at Western Foundry . . . "; "Contempt Charges Face Striking Western Employees"; "Foundry, Union Ready for Court"; "Foundry Drops Contempt Count Against Union"; "Foundry Strike Meeting Slated"; "Foundry Strike Talks Fail to Find Agreement"; etc.

[9] The indictments against Mrs. Alexander and accomplices Gill, Hester and Mrs. Hester were dismissed during the course of the Grady Alexander trial.

at Night Time." The indictment charged a felony under Texas Penal Code, Article 1391,[10] which makes a felony punishable by penitentiary term of five years to life, the entry into a residence at night with intent to commit a felony. Here it was alleged that Alexander "entered" the Smith home by shooting a shotgun; and that the "entry" was with the intent to murder Smith.

The Texas Statute which on its face appears to be intended for such a situation is Article 1339, Texas Penal Code,[11] which defines as a *misdemeanor,* not a felony, the shooting into a house. The penalty provided is jail term and/or fine.

The Grand Jury of which we here complain took no account of this misdemeanor statute. Conviction under the misdemeanor statute would have permitted appellant to have continued in his vocation as a union organizer.

Conviction under the felony statute resulted in the foundry and the community being forever rid of appellant as a union organizer. For Article 5154A, Sec. 4A,[12] Texas Revised Civil Statutes, prohibits one convicted of a felony from acting as union organizer, official or agent.

Alexander's Motion to Quash the Indictment on the ground that the Grand Jury which indicted him was not truly representative of the community and had been selected on the basis of a studied and deliberate exclusion of Negroes, was overruled. Alexander was convicted solely upon the testimony of an alleged accomplice and was sentenced to a five-year penitentiary term. As noted above, this felony conviction deprives Alexander of the privilege of following his present vocation.

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[10] See Appendix A, p. 15, *infra.*

[11] Reprinted in full; Appendix G, p. 31, *infra.*

[12] Section 4A of Article 5154A is reprinted herein as Appendix H, p. 31, *infra.*

The record made in support of the Motion to Quash the Indictment is overwhelming in its proof of discrimination in Grand Jury selection. For example, until 1943, not a single Negro ever served on a Smith County Grand Jury.

In the eleven years from the appearance of the first Negro on a Smith County Grand Jury, in 1943, until Alexander's indictment in 1953, twenty-four Grand Juries were impanelled. Of the 384 persons selected as grand jurors during this period, *five* were Negroes.

The extent of the discrimination appears when population statistics of record are considered. For this record clearly demonstrates that there are thousands of Negroes in Smith County qualified to serve as Grand Jurors. (S. F. p. 97.) Twenty-nine and nine-tenths percent of the population of Smith County is Negro. No reason is even suggested by this record why only five of the one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two Negro poll tax holders should have been selected as Grand Jurors in the last twelve years (S. F. p. 227), or why all but five of the three thousand eight hundred and forty-five heads of Negro families should have been ignored in composing Grand Juries. (S. F. pp. 206, 208.)

No more than one Negro served on any Grand Jury.[13] Only five Negroes have ever served on Grand Juries in Smith County, one having served once, three having served twice, and one having served on three different Grand Juries.

Moreover, these significant facts appear: of the eleven

[13]The record discloses the composition of each Grand Jury from 1942 through the 1953 Grand Jury which indicted Alexander. In each of these years two Grand Juries, each of 16 persons, was selected. A Negro served on each of the following Grand Juries: March, 1943; August, 1946; August, 1947; August, 1948; March, 1949; March, 1950; August, 1950; March, 1951; March, 1952; March, 1953. The other fourteen Grand Juries during this period did not have even token Negro representation.

Grand Jury lists upon which the name of a Negro appears, the Negro is the last or sixteenth name on nine of the eleven lists. The designation "colored" or "col." appears after the Negro's name on nine lists. Only once does the name of the Negro fall among the first twelve names.

Finally, one of the Grand Jury Commissioners who selected the very Grand Jury which indicted Alexander admitted that the Commissioners

> "deemed it advisable to surely select one member of the colored race whom we thought was qualified... we did not deem it advisable to have more than one."

ARGUMENT

The indictment returned by the discriminatorily selected Grand Jury arose out of an incident at the heart of an economic struggle of a large segment of the "Negro community" in Smith County, Texas. If there were those in Smith County who would "keep the Negro in his place" by denying him such citizenship status as would result in non-discrimination in make-up of Grand Juries, would not those same persons view with alarm the strike activities of union organizer Alexander, who, by aiding in strike action at the principal industry in the county, was not only upsetting established economic strata, but was wreaking havoc with established social patterns of segregation?

Alexander was a leader of a non-segregated union in a community where segregation was the established pattern; where church, school, business establishment, drinking fountain, toilet facility, intrastate transportation, every form of social intercourse, were founded on the discredited premise that the Negro is inferior and a second class citizen. See Gunnar Myr-

dall, *An American Dilemna,* Harper's, 1944, Vol. 1, First Edition, *passim,* particularly at pp. 443, 444.

Community resentment against the white man who would aid Negroes in breaking down segregation barriers is even greater than is the resentment against the Negro himself.

Myrdall's definitive work summarizing the objective sociological research in southern communities, of which Smith County, Texas is typical, concludes:

> "A white man who becomes known as a 'nigger lover' loses caste and is generally ostracized if not made the object of violence. Even a Southern white child feels the caste solidarity and learns that he can insult an adult Negro with impunity.
>
> * * *
>
> "The mechanism of the caste struggle in the South can be illuminated by observing more closely what happens when a person breaks caste solidarity. On the white side this exceptional person is called the 'nigger lover.' To be known by this characterization means social and economic death. Except for legal differences, such a person is virtually dealt with as a traitor in (679) fundamentally the same sense as a citizen who, during the war, is in friendly contact with the enemy. The 'scab' who goes over to the employer during a strike is another appropriate comparison. The disgrace and the persecution of the 'nigger lover,' the traitor and the labor 'scab' is fundamentally independent of their motives. These will usually and unquestionably be presumed to be base. No explanation is accepted. The reason is in all three cases that they are considered dangerous to the interests of the group. In recent years the 'nigger lover' has generally been associated with the 'reds' and the 'Communists,' terms that in all America and particularly in the South are given a wide and vague meaning.
>
> "Interracial workers in the South have to tread carefully in order not to invoke this terrible condemnation of being

'nigger lovers.' They know — and their Negro friends 'understand' — that they will have to avoid breaking such social etiquette as would 'offend public opinion.' I have repeatedly been informed by white participants in interracial work about the fine diplomacy involved, about the compliant understanding of the Negroes, and of the tremendous importance of this matter both to their own welfare and to the success of their interracial undertakings. The Negroes in the South, knowing the whites' treatment of 'nigger lovers' and the probability that they themselves would come in for a share, often show considerable shyness with a friendly white man, until they feel sure that he is going to leave the community soon and that he will not advertise his friendliness. The fear of being stamped as 'nigger lovers' on the part of the white interracialists accounts for their preference to 'work quietly' and for their reluctance to appeal to the white masses. By working only with the 'best people of both races' they hope, and have actually succeeded, in gaining social respectability for their strivings. But they always stress that they are treading upon a volcano, even if white solidarity is apparently losing some of its fury."[13A] Myrdall op. cit. pp. 677-679.

All this being shown, the Texas Court's error in holding that Alexander, not being a member of the Negro race, could not attack the indictment is clear deprivation of rights of due process and equal protection.

To hold that only Negroes may complain that juries are discriminatorily selected is to view the question as one of accommodating the races. This Court in *Cassel v. Texas,* 339 U. S. 282 (1951), 70 S. Ct. 629, made explicit that due process and equal protection required jury selection regardless of race—not, as the Texas Court here permits—on account of it.

[13A] The propriety of the court taking judicial notice of southern attitudes on race relations is clear. See Chas. S. Mangum, Jr., *"The Legal Status of the Negro,"* Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1940, at pp. 18, 25, and cases there collected.

A white man organizing Negroes in an East Texas community in which discrimination against Negroes is as obvious as is disclosed by this record, is even less likely to obtain fair and impartial consideration from a discriminatorily selected Grand Jury than is a Negro. Alexander—organizing Negroes—is entitled to the same rights as those whom he was organizing. Particularly is this so when the offense charged allegedly arises out of the labor dispute in which Negroes, organized by Alexander into an unsegregated union, are engaging in strike action. What better opportunity for those who seek to perpetuate racial discrimination than to utilize a "white" Grand Jury to discriminate against one who is leading a mixed union —predominantly Negro—in protest against their working conditions?

This Court has been explicit in a long line of cases, most arising in the Texas Courts, in requiring that there be no discrimination "in the selection of jurors on racial grounds," *Hill vs. Texas,* 316 U. S. 400, 404, 62 S. Ct. 1159 (1942); *Avery v. Georgia,* 345 U. S. 559, 73 S. Ct. 891 (1953); *Smith v. Texas,* 311 U. S. 128, 61 S. Ct. 164 (1940); *Pierre v. Louisiana,* 306 U. S. 354, 59 S. Ct. 536 (1939); *Cassell v. Texas,* 339 U. S. 282, 70 S. Ct. 629 (1950); *Akins vs. Texas,* 325 U. S. 403 (195—); *Hernandez v. Texas,* .....U. S. ....., 74 S. Ct. 667 (1954).

The last cited case was decided by this Court while the instant case was pending in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Nevertheless, the Texas Court effectively ignored the fact that it had been reversed in the *Hill, Smith, Cassell* and *Hernandez* cases and refused to permit Alexander to even question the selection of the Grand Jury which indicted him. We respectfully suggest that the Texas Court should be made to understand that the Constitution requires that there be no discrimination on racial grounds in selection of Grand Jurors.

Apparently from the disposition of the instant case, the Texas Court is not yet convinced of the requirement.

We have shown that certiorari should be granted both to assure to Alexander his constitutional rights and to point to the Texas Courts the necessity of deciding federal questions of substance in accord with applicable decisions of this Court.

The petition has merit on even broader grounds. Racial patterns in the South are fast shifting toward a realization of the dignity and equal status before the law to be accorded all men. In general, this shift is peaceful. Yet there are those throughout the South with such deep "convictions" as to "white supremacy" that sporadic outbursts may be expected to arise in the process of educating and evolving toward a recognition of the civil rights of all men.[14] Individuals and organizations must surely aid in the educational and evolutionary process. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Labor Unions; Church groups; the American Civil Liberties Union; these, and a host of others, may be expected to be vigilant in advancing the economic status and guarding the civil rights of the Negro. In doing so they are bound, in some in-

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[14] This Court may judicially notice the public utterances of the Governor of Texas—recently renominated by narrow margin—viz.:

Dallas Morning News, Friday, June 11, 1954, page 2, column 4:

"He (Governor Shivers) branded two recent U. S. Supreme Court decisions—that on segregation and the Phillips gas rate case—as 'the worst violation of States' rights in history'.

"Shivers attacked those of the white race who agitated racial bitterness. He said he had less respect for white agitators than the Negro who carries out the agitators' plans."

Dallas Morning News, Tuesday, June 22, 1954, Part I, page 7, column 4:

"Shivers also blasted the U. S. Supreme Court's recent ruling banning segregation in Public Schools.

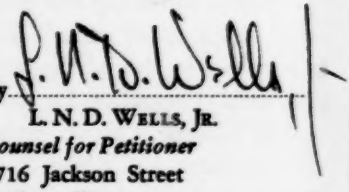
" 'As far as I am concerned,' he said, 'we are going to keep running the public schools of Texas as they are today'."

stances, to conflict with local culture patterns, local prejudices, and local officials. Are white representatives of such organizations to be subject to local prejudice and discrimination? When they urge denial of constitutional rights, may a State Court tell them: "Because of your race we will not hear your complaint"?

CONCLUSION

The petition for writ of certiorari should be granted, and the conviction reversed.

Respectfully submitted,



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September 13, 1954

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Of Counsel

APPENDIX "A"

Art. 1391. (1305-12-13) Penal Code of the State of Texas Burglary of Private Residence at Night

The offense of burglary of a private residence at night is constituted by entering a private residence by force, threats or fraud, at night, or in any manner by entering a private residence at any time, either day or night, and remaining concealed therein until night, with the intent, in either case, of committing a felony, or the crime of theft. The term "private residence," as used herein, means any building or room occupied and actually used at the time of the offense by any person as a place of residence. One guilty of burglary of a private residence at night shall be confined in the penitentiary for any term not less than five years. Such burglary is a distinct offense, and nothing making it such shall alter or repeal the two preceding articles. Act June 5, 1899; Acts 1899, p. 318.

APPENDIX "B"

No. 26,780

GRADY ALEXANDER, *Appellant*

v.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, *Appellee*

Appeal from Smith County

OPINION

This is a conviction for nighttime burglary of a private residence; the punishment, five years in the penitentiary.

At the outset, we are confronted with the attack upon the sufficiency of the indictment, the charging portion of which reads as follows:

> "Grady Alexander did, then and there unlawfully in the nighttime, commit the offense of burglary, by then and there discharging firearms, to-wit: a shotgun, into the house of Israel Smith, with the intent then and there of committing a felony, to-wit: he, the said Grady Alexander did then and there with malice aforethought, discharge said shotgun into said house with the intent then and there to kill and murder Israel Smith; the said Israel Smith then and there being in said house, said house being then and there the private residence of the said Israel Smith, and then and there controlled and occupied by the said Israel Smith as a dwelling house; and he, the said Grady Alexander, did then and there shoot and discharge said shotgun into said house as aforesaid, without the consent of the said Israel Smith."

It is apparent that the state was here attempting to charge the crime of nighttime burglary of a private residence under Art. 1391, V. A. P. C., and that the felony intended was the murder of Isreal Smith, the occupant of the residence at the time. We find it to be sufficient to allege a burglarious entry. Broner v. State, 200 S. W. 2d 191, overruling Shackelford v. State, 203 S. W. 600, on this point.

Smith, the alleged injured party, was the president of the Western Foundry Company in Tyler. Appellant was the representative of the International Moulders and Foundry Workers Union of North America. The members of the local of that union, about seventy-five per cent of whom were Negroes, were employees of the Western Foundry

Company. For some time prior to March 18, 1953, differences had arisen between the foundry company and the local union. In connection with efforts of the union to obtain a renewal of its contract, Smith had sought to have defendant jailed for contempt. Appellant had been heard to say, "Well, I'm going to kill that God damn Jew son of a bitch," referring to Smith.

Smith's one-story brick residence faced Belmont Avenue in Tyler. On the front side of the residence was a bedroom with two windows. Those windows were screened, and on the inside were metal blinds. The walls of the room were nine feet high. The top of the windows was something like twelve inches from the ceiling, the bottom being some 2½ feet above the floor. The house was situated upon what might be called a double terraced lot with two separate series of steps of five steps each. From the edge of the street to the house was a distance of thirty-five or forty feet. The windows of the bedroom were something like fifteen or eighteen feet higher than the street.

About two o'clock, A.M., on March 18, 1953, Smith was awakened by two shotgun blasts. He went immediately to the bedroom above described, where his twelve-year-old son was sleeping. There he found that No. 6 shot from a shotgun had been fired into the room and through the upper sash of the window. Some of the shot had penetrated the room and lodged in the ceiling and upper window sash and some had penetrated the metal blind. Glass from the window was scattered over the room and the bed. No person suffered an injury as a result of the shooting.

Smith had never occupied the room as his bedroom. The room he and Mrs. Smith occupied as their bedroom was not on the Belmont Avenue side of the house but was situated back of the room above mentioned.

The indictment charged that appellant fired the shots into the house with the intent to murder Smith.

To show such intent, the state relies upon the testimony of Mrs. Charles Hester, who had been indicted for the same offense for which appellant was on trial and who was therefore an accomplice witness, as a matter of law. The trial court so recognized and charged the jury that the witness was an accomplice.

Mrs. Hester testified that on the night of the shooting appellant came to her home and asked to borrow her husband's shotgun. Hester, the husband, delivered it to the appellant, advising him that it was loaded. Appellant then stated to Hester that "he had something big up" and that he wanted to show him something. Thereupon, Mrs. Hester carried her baby to appellant's automobile, which was parked near the front of the Hester home, and was there joined by appellant and her husband a short while later. James Gill and appellant's wife were in the car at the time. At appellant's request, Hester drove the automobile to Belmont Drive, the street upon which the Smith home was situated. Appellant told Hester that he was "going to fix Mr. Smith up," and directed him to drive around the block to a side road, where appellant disconnected the tail lights of the automobile. The automobile was then driven past the front of the Smith home, at which time appellant fired three blasts from the gun in the direction thereof. Immediately after the shots were fired, appellant said, "I bet that scared him," and then he told Hester to "Step on it." Prior to the shooting, James Gill had told appellant that he had "been in there two or three times, and Mr. Smith sleeps in this front bedroom."

As the car was being driven to the home of Mrs. Alexander, appellant's mother-in-law, appellant cut up the three empty shells from the gun and threw them out of the car. After reaching Mrs. Alexander's home, James Gill, at appellant's direction, hid the shotgun in the "loft" of her home.

The appellant did not testify.

The facts set forth in the two preceding paragraphs are shown, solely, by the testimony of the accomplice witness.

It is insisted that no facts were introduced in evidence sufficient to provide the corroboration of the accomplice witness necessary to authorize the conviction.

It becomes necessary to examine the record for such corroborative evidence.

Outside of and other than the testimony of the accomplice, it was shown: (a) The shotgun was found by the officers three days after the shooting, at Mrs. Alexander's home. The gun was wrapped in a newspaper and no fingerprints were found thereon. After the gun

was found, its possession was traced and, upon the trial, it was identified by the accomplice as belonging to her husband. (b) About three o'clock, A.M., being about an hour or hour and a half after the shooting, appellant and his wife drove into a filling station in their Lincoln automobile and purchased "some Seven Ups." (c) Mrs. J. D. Hester, the mother of Charles Hester, testified to a conversation she had with the appellant at her home in the presence of her son Charles and Mrs. Charles Hester, the accomplice witness. The conversation took place after the appellant, Charles Hester, Mrs. Charles Hester, and others had been arrested and charged with the offense here involved. The witness testified that appellant came to her home at night and asked to see Charles Hester. When her son arrived she left the room temporarily. Upon returning, the appellant, Charles Hester, and Mrs. Charles Hester engaged in conversation, "talking about the shooting out at Israel Smith's house," in the course of which appellant said, "Charles, look. Now you know that we got into this together, and we've got to get out of it together.... We are in this just alike, all of us together, and we've got to get out together." Thereupon, the witness stated to appellant: "Charles was in bed asleep and you come over and got him and took him with you ... You know that you are old enough to be his daddy, and you have tore down here in one night what I've built up all these nineteen years in Charles." Apellant replied, "I'm sorry. That's the truth, but still, we are in this and we've got to get out." In that connection, the witness further testified: "He (appellant) was just talking to Charles about the union wanted to represent them, just like it was them. He said that they were all five in it together."

The test often applied by this court as to the sufficiency of corroboration is to eliminate from consideration the testimony of the accomplice witness and see if there be inculpatory evidence which tends to connect the accused with the commission of the offense. Durham v. State, 106 Tex. Cr. R. 85, 290 S.W. 1092; Fitzgerald v. State, 140 Tex. Cr. R. 359, 145 S.W. 2d 190.

Summarizing, it may be said that outside of and other than the testimony of the accomplice, it is shown that: Someone fired two blasts (which is the number Smith said he heard) of No. 6 shot from a shotgun into Smith's home. There was ill-feeling existing between appellant and Smith, and appellant, prior to the shooting, had threatened

to kill Smith. On the night of and after the shooting, appellant and his wife drove into a filling station in their Lincoln automobile and purchased some bottles of Seven-Up.

Some time after the shooting into the house, appellant and four others were arrested and charged with the offense which grew out of the shooting.

In discussing the shooting and the arrest or accusation with two of the arrested parties, and in an endeavor to have them agree to the use of the same counsel, the appellant made a statement to the effect that he and the two other arrested parties were "in this together" and had to "get out together," and that it was true that he had gotten Charles Hester out of bed and "took him" with him.

These inculpatory statements of the appellant constituted an admission of guilt and we find the evidence sufficient to corroborate the accomplice witness.

The charge of the court is claimed to be erroneous in several particulars. The first is presented in connection with the contention that the indictment failed to allege that appellant made an assault upon Israel Smith.

Early in the charge, the trial court said: "The indictment in this cause alleging burglary with intent to commit a felony, to-wit assault with the intent to murder with malice aforethought, it is necessary that the Court define to you both the crime of burlary of a private residence at night time, and also the crime of assault with intent to murder with malice aforethought."

Following this statement, the charge defines burglary of a private residence and defines entry in accordance with the provisions of Art. 1393 P.C. as including "by the discharging of firearms into the house with intent to injure any person therein."

Then follows the statement, in the charge, "The use of any unlawful violence upon the person of another with intent to injure him, whatever be the means or degree of violence, is an assault." Other definitions given by the court prior to the application of the law to the facts include that of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, murder with malice aforethought, and "murder without malice."

A deadly weapon was defined to be "one which from the manner used is calculated or likely to produce death."

It is apparent that the trial court recognized that, though the indictment did not specifically charge and the proof did not show that appellant actually committed violence upon the person of Israel Smith, it was essential that the state prove that appellant fired the shots with intent to commit murder. In applying the law to the facts the court did not authorize a conviction upon a finding that appellant discharged the shotgun into the house with intent to commit "an assault" with intent to murder, but instructed the jury that if appellant discharged the shotgun into the house with the specific intent to kill Smith with malice aforethought he would be guilty as charged in the indictment.

The legal effect of the charge, as given, is that one is guilty of the felony offense of burglary of a private residence at night if he shoots into the private residence of another with intent thereby to murder one who is at the time an occupant of the house.

It should be noted that in burglary cases it is not material whether the intent to commit the felony is actually carried into effect or only demonstrated by the attempt, or by some overt act, to be decided by the jury from the facts in evidence. Wilburn v. State, 41 Tex. R. 237; Burke v. State, 5 Tex. Court of Appeals 74.

We find no such error in the charge in regard to the definitions and preliminary instruction as will call for reversal of the conviction. Art. 666 C.C.P.

Appellant next complains that the jury was not instructed to the effect that if appellant fired the gun into the house willfully or maliciously and without an intent to kill, he would be guilty of a violation of Art. 1339, V.A.P.C. Said article provides, among other things, that if one wilfully or maliciously fires a gun at, against, or into any private residence, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as therein provided. The issue of intent, other than arises out of malice or wilfullness, it not an element of that offense.

Appellant requested the following charge, which was given:

> "You are instructed that even though you should find and believe from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that the

defendant, Grady Alexander, discharged a shotgun into the private residence of Israel Smith at nighttime on or about the 18th day of March, 1953, that you cannot and must not convict the defendant unless you further find and believe from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that at the very time the defendant discharged the shotgun, if he did, into the home of the said Israel Smith, that at such time there then and there existed in the mind of the said Grady Alexander the specific intent to kill and murder with malice aforethought the said Israel Smith, and unless you so find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, you will return a verdict of not guilty herein."

Thus appellant requested that the jury be instructed to acquit unless they found he intended to murder Smith with malice aforethought and his request was complied with. He cannot therefore be heard to complain that the court failed to give a contrary and conflicting charge, instructing the jury that under such finding the jury should not acquit but might convict him of malicious mischief. We are not called upon to determine whether the misdemeanor offense referred to is one which comes within the provision of Art. 694 V.A.C.C.P. providing for the submission of lower offenses to the jury, or of whether the failure to submit such misdemeanor offense would so prejudice appellant as to call for a reversal under Art 666 C.C.P.

Appellant, a white man, attacks the indictment, alleging that race discrimination was practiced against members of the Negro race in the organization of the grand jury which returned the indictment in this case. His authority for such attack is based, he asserts, upon the proposition that the union, of which a large portion were Negroes, was here involved.

Not being a member of that race, appellant could not urge (as beneficial to him) discrimination against members of the Negro race.

The evidence is deemed sufficient and no reversible error appears.

The judgment is affirmed.

WOODLEY, *Judge.*

(Delivered April 7, 1954.)

APPENDIX "B"

No. 26,780

GRADY ALEXANDER, *Appellant,*

v.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, *Appellee.*

Appeal from Smith County.

OPINION
ON MOTION FOR REHEARING

Appellant, in his motion for rehearing, complains of the refusal of his motion for a new trial based upon newly discovered evidence. The testimony presented upon this motion shows that Mrs. Hester, who testified on the main trial, stated before the trial that she wouldn't have signed "that confession but they promised (threatened) to take my baby away from me," and after the trial stated "I lied on that witness stand." It is not shown what she lied about, therefore the materiality of same cannot be appraised. The statement about her baby could be used only for impeachment purposes for which a new trial is not ordinarily granted. White v. State, 76 Tex. Cr. R. 612, 177 S.W. 93.

No abuse of discretion is shown by the trial court in refusing appellant's motion for a new trial.

Appellant again complains of peace officers appearing in the court room during the trial while armed and of one officer testifying while armed.

Such matters rest within the discretion of the trial court. In the absence of any evidence that the court abused its discretion in regard to the appearance of said officers, no error is shown.

Other contentions re-urged by appellant have been considered, and we remain of the opinion that this cause was properly disposed of originally.

Appellant's motion for rehearing is overruled.

BELCHER, *Judge.*

(Delivered June 2, 1954)
Opinion approved by the Court.

APPENDIX "C"

Final Judgment of Court of Criminal Appeals
Entered June 26, 1954

MINUTES OF COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS
AUSTIN, TEXAS

No. 26,780

GRADY ALEXANDER, *Apellant,*

vs.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, *Appellee.*

Appeal from District Court of Smith County, Texas.

APPELLANT'S SECOND MOTION FOR REHEARING
OVERRULED WITHOUT WRITTEN OPINION
JUNE 26, 1954

This cause came on to be heard on Appellant's Second Motion for Rehearing, and the same being considered, it is ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court that said motion be and the same is hereby in all things overruled.

APPENDIX "D"

Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of United States

(ARTICLE XIV)

"Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the judisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. . . ."

APPENDIX "E"

No. 15,234

THE STATE OF TEXAS
vs.
GRADY ALEXANDER

In the District Court of Smith County, Texas, 114th Judicial District.

Motion to Quash Indictments for Discrimination Practice by the Grand Jury Commissioners Who Selected the Grand Jury Which Returned the Indictment Against Defendant

TO SAID HONORABLE COURT:

Now comes Grady Alexander, defendant in the above styled and numbered cause, and moves the court to quash the indictment returned against him in said cause and for ground would show the following:

1.

Defendant, Grady Alexander, would show that he is a white male citizen and for occupation is international representative and organizer for the International Brotherhood of Molders and Foundry Workers Union of North America AFL. In this connection defendant would show that he resides in Smith County, Texas and is generally known and associated and is known by reputation to be the business representative and bargaining representative for the members of his said international union located in Texas, many of whom reside in Tyler and Smith County, Texas. Defendant would further show that as International Representative and business representative for the local unions in Smith County, Texas, that he also represents and is authorized to represent many negro and non-white residents of Smith County, Texas who are members of the local unions affiliated with the International Brotherhood, as well as having been certified as the representative to bargain for, represent and process grievances for and otherwise police contracts, relationships relating to work, wages, hours and working conditions between employee and certain employers of Smith County, Texas, including the prosecuting witness, Israel Smith, and the many white and non-white members of local unions affiliated with the Inter-

national Brotherhood, as well as many non-members of said union, but who are and were employees of employers in Smith County, Texas and vicinity, including the prosecuting witness Israel Smith. Defendant would further show that in his efforts to represent the interest of the many white and non-white employees of the various employers in Smith County, Texas and vicinity that this defendant's name has become generally known and associated as a person who represents and works with and for many non-white and Negro employees of employers in the vicinity of Smith County, Texas, including the Negro and non-white employees of prosecuting witness Israel Smith.

2.

This defendant would show to the court that the prosecuting witness, one Israel Smith, in his capacity individually and as president of corporations doing business in Smith County, Texas and vicinity is an employer of a large number of both white and non-white employees, including many Negro employees, and that your defendant has been for some time engaged in undertaking to negotiate and organize the white and non-white employees of the defendant and to represent employees of the local union of Molders affiliated with the International Brotherhood, of which there are many Negro members. In this capacity this defendant has been engaged in repeated labor difficulties over a long period of time and has received great and widespread notoriety through the press and radio in connection with his efforts to represent, protect and defend the interest of the many white and Negro members of his union and the many white and Negro employees of the prosecuting witness. That in this connection he has been engaged in assisting said white and Negro members in various labor disputes and in strike activity and in picketing and in bargaining for and organizing the employees of the prosecuting witness. That all of said information is a matter of general knowledge in the County of Smith and in Tyler, Texas to the entire citizenship of the County.

3.

This defendant would show further that the grand jury and all persons comprising the panel from which said grand jury was selected were white persons.

4.

This defendant would further show that the said grand jury panel

was picked and selected by a panel of jury commissioners appointed by the District Judge of Smith County, Texas for said purpose and in accordance with the terms of Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 333 to 340. That the jury commissioners who selected the grand jury were all white men, the judge of the court was a white man, and that the court in picking the jury commissioners to select the grand jury for Smith County failed to select a jury commissioner who was of a non-white color or race and the District Court has throughout the entire history of the appointment of jury commissioners, never selected a Negro to serve as a jury commissioner. That no jury commissioner who selected the grand jury panel which indicted this defendant had on it a member who was of a non-white race.

5.

That long prior to the selection of the names for the current grand jury panel and the panel of jury commissioners appointed to select the grand jury panel, there has been and were numerous non-white citizens of the State of Texas and residents of said County who in every respect had been and were qualified to serve as jury commissioners to select the grand jury and to serve as grand jurors in investigating and returning indictments in criminal cases in Smith County.

6.

That the Board of jury commissioners or persons who were by law appointed by the District Court and authorized to select and appoint the persons who were to act as grand jurors and who did select the grand jurors who returned the indictment in this cause unlawfully and in violation of their respective oaths of offices and of the Constitution of the State of Texas and of the United States and of the law of the Land, did exclude and always have excluded from grand jury service all qualified non-white members including members of the colored race and of the African descent solely on account of their race and color.

7.

That at all times it has been, and was at the time of the appointment of the grand jury commissioners and the grand jury in this cause, and at the time of the return of the indictment of this cause, a custom in said Smith County to use white men exclusively for grand jury commissioners and for grand jurors to serve in any and all cases,

including indictment of felonies, and that this custom has been followed by those charged with the duty of appointing or selecting grand jurors.

8.

That since 194.... the grand jury commissioners have engaged in a discriminatory system of appointing only one grand juror as a Negro on the panel for said grand jury panel when one was selected at all. In all of the panels selected down to the present time, such a discriminatory selection and proportional selection of a Negro to serve upon the grand jury panel has in itself constituted a discrimination against the non-white races and classes of citizens resident in Smith County, Texas, and has, therefore, constituted an unfair and discriminatory grand jury, and did so constitute this grand jury. That the deliberate and intentional practice of selecting Negroes to serve upon the grand juries in Smith County, Texas, since 194.... and excluding from service on said grand jury panel more than one Negro for any one grand jury itself constitutes an unconstitutional and unlawful method of selecting grand juries and results in the discrimination of members of the non-white race from serving on the grand jury solely on account of their race and color.

9.

Defendant would further show that the grand jury commissioners in addition to the basis of discrimination herein set out have selected members for the grand jury and did select members for the grand jury that returned the indictment in this case without having made a thorough and detailed study to determine the number of men qualified for grand jury service that were available in Smith County, Texas, and failed to familiarize themselves fairly with the qualifications of the eligible jurors of the County without regard to race and color and said failure resulted in racial discrimination in failing to select a true representative grand jury from all eligible citizens of Smith County. Defendant is entitled under the constitution of the United States to have charges against him considered by a jury in the selection of which there has been neither inclusion or exclusion because of race and defendant has been deprived of this constitutional right by the selection of the grand jury which returned this indictment and by the system and custom in selecting grand jurors in Smith County, Texas, at least since 1940 in that no time since 1940 has a grand jury been

selected in Smith County, Texas on the basis of individual qualification without regard to racial or color characteristics.

10.

In this connection defendant would show that according to the 1950 census there were 74,701 inhabitants in Smith County, Texas, of which 29.9 were of the non-white race. That of the total inhabitants 36,614 were male citizens of Smith County, and of this number 10,735 were male non-white citizens of Smith County.

WHEREFORE, premises considered, this defendant prays that the court examine into the facts herein charged and of the violation of his constitutional rights by depriving him of the equal protection of the law, as well as due process of law, as guaranteed under the 14th Amendment of the Federal Constitution and upon final hearing hereof this defendant prays that the court quash the indictment in this cause and that the said indictment be adjudged and decreed to be null and void and that this defendant be discharged under said indictment and he prays that the court make such other orders and decrees in the premises protecting the constitutional rights of this defendant as justice and the law demands.

MULLINAX & WELLS
By /s/ OTTO B. MULLINAX
Otto B. Mullinax
Attorney for Defendant
1716 Jackson Street
Dallas, Texas
/s/ GRADY ALEXANDER
Grady Alexander

Comes now the defendant, Grady Alexander, in the above matter and states on oath that he is cognizant of the foregoing facts set out in the foregoing motion and upon oath states that the facts herein set out are within his knowledge true and correct.

/s/ GRADY ALEXANDER
Grady Alexander

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of May, 1953.

/s/ J. O. DAUGHTRY
Notary Public in and for Smith County, Texas.

APPENDIX "F"

The error of the Trial Court in overruling defendant's Motion to Quash the Indictment for Discriminatory Practices of Grand Jury Commissioners.

APPENDIX "G"

Art. 1339. Penal Code of the State of Texas Throwing or Firing Into Car, Etc.

Whoever shall wilfully or maliciously throw a stone or other missile or fire any gun or pistol at, against or into any engine, tender, coach, passenger car whether moving or not, or any other car of any moving train on any railway, or any railway depot, or any private residence, school house, church house, court house, store house, hotel or other public or private building, private or public tent, sailboat or steamboat, shall be fined not less than five nor more than one thousand dollars or be confined in jail not less than ten days nor more than two years

APPENDIX "H"

Article 5154 A, Sec. 4a. Revised Civil Statutes of Texas

It shall be unlawful for any alien or any person convicted of a felony charge to serve as an officer or official of a labor union or as a labor organizer as defined in this Act. This Section shall not apply to a person who may have been convicted of a felony and whose rights of citizenship shall have been fully restored.